

The Seafarer

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Customer Service Bulletin

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FISC Norfolk Provides Assistance in New York Rescue Efforts



Stevedores from FISC Norfolk traveled to Naval Weapons Station Earle, New Jersey Wednesday Sept. 13 to load material aboard the USNS Comfort (T-AH 20). The Comfort was activated to provide assistance to the search and rescue efforts after the collapse of the World Trade Center in New York. The Navy hospital ship was berthed at pier 92 on the West Side of Manhattan to provide food and laundry services and short-term lodging space for firemen and disaster recovery personnel working in lower Manhattan.

Navy food service personnel worked around the clock to provide hot, nutritious meals for the relief workers as well as the 250 sailors housed aboard the 894-foot hospital ship and the dozens of New York Fire Department and Police Department personnel who are working in the pier area.

Transportation throughout Manhattan was very difficult, making Comfort a welcome respite for the emergency personnel working in the vicinity.

Joint FISC / DDNV MPC

SURFLANT SUPO Receives MPC Brief



Commander Kevin Carrier briefs Capt. Jim Holland (SURFLANT Force Supply Officer), Capt. Bill Kowba (FISC Norfolk's Commanding Officer) and Capt. Jim Haggerty (DDNV Commander) on the operations of the Material Processing Center (MPC) in building W-135. Also present were Capt. Cris Toledo (center) (FISC Norfolk Customer Operations Officer), Fayeelaine Haddaway and Polk Rutherford (Customer Operation Department) and two MPC workers Odette Daughtry and Alice Roco.

Pier Renumbering Planned for Nov.

The Naval Station is in the planning and coordination phase of renumbering waterfront piers. The plan is to renumber NAVSTA piers in sequential order starting from the south end of the facility. The plan to execute the renumbering on 19 Nov 2001, the commissioning date of the two new MILCON piers.

Pier 24T will be renamed Pier 3T and Pier 25T will be renamed Pier 5T until it is demolished. There will be a period from Nov. 15 until Jan 15 where the old Pier 2 and new Pier 2 will both exist. Both will be capable of supporting ships. The plan is to temporarily call the old Pier 2 - Pier 6A as the new Pier 2 will be renamed Pier 6.

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What's Inside?

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New Logistics Support Unit Established at Little Creek

Supply Corps Captain Paul L. McNeill, SC, USN assumed command of the newly established Naval Special Warfare Group TWO Logistics and Support Unit on Friday Sept. 28, 2001 at Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base. Officiating over the ceremony was Rear Admiral Eric T. Olson, Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command.

The Logistics and Support Unit will provide logistical and other support services to Commander, Naval Special Warfare Group TWO and subordinate units in order to directly support operations and training at home and forward deployed to other operating theaters.

Marine Paint Available Through HAZMIN Ctr.

Efforts to improve customer service to the fleet are underway at the Regional HAZMIN centers located in building LF-50 and NAB Little Creek building 2117. The centers are now stocking marine paints from the Sherwin-Williams Company which are available for pickup or delivery to the piers. Paint and chemicals that are on the BPA but not currently stocked have a 48-hour turn around time. Fifteen types of paints are currently stocked and if demand warrants, additional items will be added. This service will greatly decrease the time from ordering to delivery of this material. For additional information, call Craig Hughes at LF-50, phone 444-2024 or Les Doggett at Building 2117, phone 462-4053.

Subsistence goes contractor

Good-bye Working Parties



Pier 12 - Contract stevedores load stores aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) during a recent test of the Contractor Subsistence Load-out Program. The program is in support of Afloat Supply Department of the Future (ASDOF) initiatives to improve the quality of life of shipboard sailors. The program, which was also tested in San Diego, began Navy-wide Oct. 1. The program substantially reduces or eliminates the need for shipboard subsistence working parties for scheduled subsistence deliveries. Instead, contract civilian stevedores are employed to load stores from the pier to the ship's storerooms. The plan, to transition from subsistence working parties staffed by sailors to working parties staffed by a majority of contractor personnel, will be seamless for afloat units and contribute to a substantially improved shipboard working environment.

Results are In

FISC Norfolk's Ocean Terminal Wins A-76

The Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) recently announced that the Navy will retain in house the Ocean Terminal Operations at Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Norfolk, Va. This decision is the result of a competitive study conducted in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76.

The decision involved a review of civilian positions that perform Ocean Terminal functions at FISC Norfolk. The study included 195 civilians. The government's proposal calls for a work force of 115 civilian employees.

The decision to retain the operation in house was made after no technically acceptable bids were received from industry. Career employees adversely affected by the decision will be given maximum assistance in continuing their federal careers though reassignment to other positions in the Department of Defense or other agencies. Those employees will also be assisted, in cooperation with the Department of Labor and state employment services, in locating positions in private industry or afforded opportunities to undertake retraining programs to qualify them for jobs available in local labor markets.

OPSEC Critical Everyday, Everywhere

Due to the heightened state of security resulting from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, service members are being reminded of the importance of OPSEC, operational security, which is a key component of anti-terrorism and force protection. Service members who need to discuss critical information should use a secure telephone. Government telephones are subject to monitoring at all times. Cell phones, while extremely convenient, are one of the easiest means of communication to monitor. No critical information should be discussed on a cell phone. Everyone has a role in OPSEC, and including family members. Information such as the cancellation of leave or work schedules can provide the adversary with another piece of the overall puzzle he's trying to piece together.



Commander David Wiggs, SC, USN, Director of FISC Norfolk's Material Operations Department delivers the good news to Ocean Terminal employees. Although the work will be retained by the government, the total number of employees will be reduced to meet the government's proposal of 115.

Aviation Support Divisions Realigned

In February 1999, the base Supply Departments, and their Aviation Support Divisions (ASDs), at Naval Air Stations (NAS) Oceana and the former NAS Norfolk became the responsibility of the Supply/Logistics Program Manager for the Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic and his subordinates, the Regional Supply Officers at the two sites. This move was one of many actions occurring under the heading of "regionalization" in the Base Operating Support (BOS) world. The commanding officer of FISC Norfolk assumed this relationship in an effort to improve readiness and to share the technical expertise resident in the Navy's largest Supply Center. Since that time, civilian manpower numbers have been reduced by over 20%, and a host of functional realignments have improved customer service, delivered greater efficiencies, and reduced spending.

Since the onset of regionalization, a number of system and IT initiatives have changed the way we conduct supply operations. This past spring, the ASD at NAS Oceana replaced the old U2 system

with R-supply, in an effort to align itself better with the existing program in the Fleet. Further, the ASD at Naval Station Norfolk is in the midst of installing an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solution to support the over 120 aircraft attached to the two Air Wings at Chambers Field. As the inaugural program, Norfolk expects to implement ERP early next calendar year, and ultimately export the program to all ASDs.

This past summer, CINCLANTFLT made the decision to realign the ASDs under lead Wing Commanders at Oceana and Norfolk. As of 01 October, ASD Oceana reports to FITWINGLANT and ASD Norfolk to AEWWINGLANT. With readiness accountability residing with the Wings, this alignment will afford them direct control of all facets of aviation support. Additionally, the Wings will benefit from a new additional duty (ADDU) relationship with the Regional Supply Officers who will assist in making policy and readiness decisions for the ASDs.

Reservists Can Keep Civilian Health Care When Mobilized

Mobilized Reservists May Retain Employers' Family Healthcare Federal law provides mobilized Guard and Reserve members the opportunity to keep their employer-sponsored healthcare coverage. If the employee will be absent for more than 30 days, the employer may require the employee to pay the entire premium cost plus a 2 percent administrative fee. The Uniformed Services Employment and

Re-employment Rights Act of 1994 allows mobilized reservists to keep health insurance provided through their civilian employer for up to 18 months. For members who elect healthcare for their families under TRICARE programs, USERRA allows them to return to their civilian employer insurance plans with no waiting period or penalty for preexisting conditions (other than service-connected conditions, which are covered by the military). Employees with questions about their rights under this act should contact their agency's human resources department or visit the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Website at: <http://www.esgr.org/>.

DoD Moves To Restrict Civilian Blood Collections On Military Bases

Department of Defense (DoD) officials have approved a policy to restrict blood drives by civilian agencies on military bases should the services need extra blood in coming months. "The support required for an operation such as this may require us to conserve our donor resource in case we need them for specific support missions for the military," said Army Col. Michael Fitzpatrick, director of DoD's Armed Services Blood Program Office. "Some bases may need to reduce blood drives by civilian agencies such as the Red Cross if they plan to increase military blood drives. Other bases may need to suspend civilian blood drives because deployments have reduced the available donor population," Fitzpatrick said. "No bases have actually begun restricting access to civilian agencies wanting to conduct blood drives, but several are considering it. This is only intended to be a temporary move. We'll monitor the blood supply and the restrictions," Fitzpatrick said.

Purchase Card Stand Down Held To Retrain and Toughen Oversight



Charleston, SC also conducted training at their own sites.

The purpose of this training was to review the primary policies and procedures governing the Purchase Card Program in light of the General Accounting Office audit findings of the two Navy units in San Diego, Calif. area.

Mrs. Canonizado said that it is very important that all participants in the Purchase Card Program take responsibility for the its proper management. To maintain its effectiveness and to deter fraud, misuse, or abuse, she challenged every cardholder to do so. "We want the cardholders to understand that there is a price to pay for nonconformance to the DON policies and procedures of the Purchase Card Program," she said.

Tool Kit Open For Reserve, Active Duty Family Use

Service members being called up for active service or those deploying have a new tool kit to help their families, a DoD reserve affairs official said. According to the American Forces Press Service, the Guard and Reserve Family Readiness Programs Toolkit is available as a printed product as well as online at www.defenselink.mil/ra/family/toolkit/.

This standardized pre-deployment and mobilization handbook aids commanders, members, family members and family program directors or managers in preparing units for the separations that take place during mobilization and deployment. President Bush's September 14 order calling up to 50,000 reservists to active duty means the tools could be a vast help to deploying service members responding to the terrorist threats. Though aimed at reserve component members, active duty service members should also find the information helpful. A related Web site is the Guard and Reserve Family Readiness Schedule of Events at www.defenselink.mil/ra/calendar/. This calendar is designed to provide places for family readiness training across the services. Those interested can search the calendar for training opportunities near them.

2001 Holiday Season Mailing Dates Announced

HQ NAVSUP Public Affairs - The Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Postal Policy Division in concert with the U. S. Postal Service and military postal officials from all of the services note that it's not too early to mail your 2001 Christmas cards and packages to and from military addresses overseas. In fact, everyone is encouraged to beat the last minute rush and take holiday mail and packages to the nearest U.S. Post Office or APO/FPO military post office by the suggested dates listed below.

For military mail addressed to APO and FPO addresses the suggested mailing date for air letters/cards and priority is Dec. 11. For space available mail the date is Nov. 27, for parcel airlift the date is Dec. 4, and for surface mail the date is Nov. 6.



Super SERVMART Team Supports Norfolk's Fleet

The Super SERVMART continues to support the Norfolk Fleet and surrounding shore activities with product selection and services that meet the customer needs. Some of the services offered are:

- on-site technical support,
- special order service,
- delivery anywhere in Hampton Roads,
- and e-commerce ordering capability

In recent weeks the SERVMART staff has supported the deployment of the *USS Roosevelt* battle group. The SERVMART consolidated the *USS Roosevelt's* pre-deployment load out orders, staged the

SuperSERVMART

orders by division, and delivered 160 pallets pier side for the ship several days ahead of schedule. The carriers' load out required the teamwork of the ship's force, Super SERVMART staff & vendors, the FISC Logistics Support Center, and others. After the dust settled, crew members Lieutenant Shemn, and SKMC Crumm thanked the SERVMART team for going the extra mile to support the ship's schedule. The SERVMART 3PL (Third Party Logistics) mission is to streamline the logistics process while providing the customer with the required commodities.

SERVMART offers procedures and process training to all commands in the area. The training covers shopping procedures for

orders under \$2500 processed via credit card, and orders over \$2500 requiring a DD-1149; An overview of product selection and the customer service available through the SERVMART including the SERVMART catalog and shopping list application; and an overview of the Super SERVMART on-line e-commerce Web site including information on setting up user accounts and assigning user privileges. Training is available at the user site, or at the SERVMART. All commands are encouraged to schedule a training session to provide up-to-date information about FISC Norfolk's Super SERVMART. To schedule training call Maryanne Bragg @ 451-8032 or e-mail Maryanne Bragg at mbragg@egginc.com.

SERVMART Open House

Super SERVMART wants all their patrons to mark their calendars for this year's **"Super SERVMART Anniversary Open House."** If you missed last year's event, you don't want to miss this year's and if you attended last year's event, we know you will be back this year. So mark that calendar and get ready for **"November 15th."** There will be vendor tables with displays and complimentary samples for customers and visitors, a self service **refreshment** area, plus lots of good conversation and fun. So, mark that calendar and come join us for some fun, browse through Super SERVMART and see what "your" SERVMART can do for you.

Know the signs

Managing Your Stress

By Lisa Blackman, Ph.D

Given the recent terrorist attacks and the resulting changes in both the military and civilian communities, it is more important than ever to think about how to manage stress. Stressors (events that effect us) can actually be positive or negative. A positive stressor may be a wedding, birth of a child, or even a vacation. A negative stressor may be problems at work, a loss or breakup of an important relationship or exposure to an extreme event.

Common symptoms are often divided into physical, emotional and behavioral categories. For example, physical symptoms might be headaches, gastrointestinal distress, changes in energy or sleep and muscle tension. Common emotional signs might be anger, sadness, nervousness, irritability, guilt or mood swings. Some behavioral signs that can indicate a stress reaction are changes in eating patterns, decreased participation in activities, withdrawal and increased substance use, including tobacco, such as talking with friends and relatives, going to church and other groups meetings and engaging in hobbies and fun activities. Remember to take deep slow breaths and work breaks as needed. If sleep is a problem, keep to regular bed times and waking times and try to "wind down" at least 30 minutes before bedtime. After events as extreme as those in the past week have been, it is hard to know what an abnormal reaction may be. If you notice a marked decrease in your ability to fulfill obligations associated with work, parenting or social demands, you may benefit from speaking with a Life Skills provider, chaplain or other counselor. See your family physician with any sudden and severe medical symptoms.

Early Selective Reenlistment Bonuses Available for Many

By LCDR Daren Pelkie, Navy Personnel Command

Washington (NWS) – More than 5,000 Sailors are eligible to cash in early on the first two payments of next year's Selective Re-enlistment Bonus. NAVADMIN 244/01 authorizes certain Sailors who are eligible for an FY02 SRB to re-enlist prior to midnight on Sept. 30 and receive their first two payments almost immediately.

Eligible Sailors include those whose expiration of active obligated service (EAOS) falls between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31, 2001. Although these dates are on the FY02 calendar, Sailors may re-enlist during the remainder of FY01. By doing so, they will receive the first half of their SRB payment upon re-enlisting, and their first "anniversary payment" just weeks later, during October 2001.

Additionally, eligible Sailors who have served in a combat zone at any time during the month of September 2001, can re-enlist in September for tax-free SRB benefits, regardless of their scheduled departure from the combat zone. Sailors in this category may have an EAOS that falls any time during FY02.

Sailors eligible for re-enlistment may want to visit the Stay Navy web site to calculate their SRB. Log on to www.staynavy.navy.mil and click on the SRB quick link.

TRICARE Covers Most Activated Reservists' Families

Family members of Guard and Reserve members called to active duty for more than 30 days are eligible for TRICARE benefits effective the day the military sponsor mobilizes. The type of TRICARE coverage that reserve component family members receive depends upon the length of the sponsors' activation orders. Guard and Reserve members who are activated receive the same individual healthcare as their active duty counterparts. Coverage for their families, however, can assume many different forms.

Guard and Reserve families are ineligible for DoD medical benefits if their military sponsors have orders that call them to duty for 30 days or less. If sponsors have orders to active duty for more than 30 days, their families are covered under the TRICARE Extra or Standard programs from the day the member is activated. Eligible family members pay deductibles and cost-shares under both TRICARE Extra and Standard. Using a TRICARE Extra network provider can minimize those costs.

Family members of reservists and guardsmen activated under orders for 179 days or more have the option to enroll in TRICARE Prime, the military's version of a health maintenance organization. They will receive care in a military medical treatment facility or be assigned to a network provider in their area with no cost-shares or deductibles.

In cases where service members are activated for contingency operations, they and their family members are eligible to retain their military medical benefits for up to 30 days after they're released from active duty, unless sooner covered by an employer sponsored health care plan.

Dental care for both reservists and their family members fall under somewhat different rules. Since earlier this year, reserve component members and their families have been eligible to enroll in the TRICARE Dental Program. Families who had previously declined TRICARE dental coverage but who wish to enroll after their sponsors are mobilized will be able to join at active-duty rates during the first 30 days. Enrollment forms and information are available online at the TRICARE Dental Program Website.

GSA ANNOUNCES DOMESTIC PER DIEM RATES

The General Services Administration has just announced its domestic per diem rates that are effective as of Oct. 1, 2001. These rates cover lodging and meal costs (meals and incidental expenses) for all locations within the United States. For complete information, visit the web site directly at the following address: www.policyworks.gov/org/main/mt/homepage/mtt/perdiem/perd02d.html. As is customary, the list is organized by state, then city or county within that state.

A few highlights from the new rates including the following:

- **The standard rate (CONUS) for any location not found in the site is \$55 for lodging and \$30 for meals per day.**
- **The M & IE (meals and incidental expenses) rates range from \$30 to \$46 per day, depending on location.**
- **The top seasonal lodging rate appears to be Ocean City, New Jersey, with a rate of \$215 per day during the season.**
- **The top non-seasonal rate is Manhattan (New York), with a daily rate of \$198.**

Four additional Virginia locations have been granted rates above the CONUS rates, as travelers to Hopewell, Petersburg, Prince George, and Dinwiddie County, Va. now have rates of \$77 a night on lodging and \$30 for meals.

GSA also announced that it is reviewing per diem rates in 24 other locations around the country that were assigned the standard CONUS rates. The locations under review include Mobile, Ala.; Madrea, Redding, and Stockton, Calif.; Stanley, Idaho; Champaign-Urbana and Rock Island-Moline, Ill.; Anderson and Muncie, Ind.; Flintstone and Hagerstown, Md.; Bangor, ME; Auburn, Grayling, and Manistee, MI; Hannibal, Mo.; Jackson, Miss.; Lincoln, NE; Salem, Ore.; State College, Pa.; Block Island, R.I.; Spartansburg, S.C.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; and Plymouth, Wis.

NEXCOM Expands Catalog Deliver Program Overseas

Navy Exchange customers in Japan, Guam and Hawaii will now be able to purchase merchandise marked "Delivery to CONUS addresses only" in the Exchange Mail Order Catalog. Through an expanded program, customers can have this merchandise delivered to their local Navy Exchange.

"We've been testing this program in Europe since June 2000," said Mike Mongin, retail operations specialist at the Navy Exchange Service Command. "The program has been very successfully so far, so we decided to expand it into other regions. This is a great benefit for our families living in Japan, Guam and Hawaii."

Some of the items now available for purchase include TVs, exercise equipment, appliances, large toys, bicycles, luggage, wheelchairs, furniture, golf clubs, cribs, and strollers.

The new program is easy to use. Just place your catalog order via the toll-free numbers and pay for it in full. Then tell the operator that your merchandise is to be delivered to your Navy Exchange. You'll be given a catalog order number that you can use to track your purchase through your Navy Exchange customer service desk. Then just sit back and wait for your Navy Exchange to let you know when your item is available for pickup.

Proposed Military Pay Raise 4.6 Percent

Department of Defense (DoD) officials have released the proposed fiscal 2002 active duty military pay table. The American Forces Press Service reports that the pay table incorporates the proposed 4.6 percent pay raise service members would get if Congress approves the Bush Administration's fiscal 2002 DoD budget request. If approved, the pay raise goes into effect Jan. 1, 2002. The pay table does not include the proposed targeted pay raise President Bush is also proposing. If that pay raise is approved, all service members will receive a 5 percent pay raise with some mid-level NCOs and officers receiving as much as 10 percent.

Fear of Navy Mail System Unwarranted



Capt. Paul Flondarina, executive officer of FISC Norfolk sorts mail under the guidance of PC2 Valerie Combs at the Navy Regional Mail Center in Norfolk, Virginia

"The wide-spread hysteria, panic and fear of bacteria on packages and letters processed through our Navy mail system is unwarranted," said Capt. Paul Flondarina, Executive Officer of Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Norfolk. Although there is a flood of advisory material being circulated which identifies and combats against the Anthrax mail threat, the fear remains. "This should not be the way to do business," added Flondarina. FISC Norfolk operates regional mail centers in Norfolk and Washington, DC.

Nearly 90 percent of the material handled through the Regional Navy Mail Centers is official government mail and 10 percent is commercial. Navy mail experts determine the Anthrax mail threat on military installations is non-existent.

Although the risk at Navy mail centers is low, every precaution has been or is now being taken to protect mail and the people that handle it. One precaution now being taken is the availability of personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, etc.) "The key however is maintaining high vigilance," said John Gvozdz, deputy director of mail operations at FISC Det. Washington's regional mail center. Gvozdz stressed following the USPS guidelines listed at USPS.com.

"Since the majority of our mail is official, the Anthrax contamination risk is low. Early education, mail handling confidence, and vigilance are key areas we need to pursue to allay the Anthrax mail fears inspired by news coverage," said Flondarina.

What constitutes a suspicious letter or parcel?

Some typical characteristics which should trigger suspicion include letter or parcels that:

- Have any powdery substance on the outside
- Are unexpected or from someone unfamiliar to you
- Are addressed to someone no longer with your organization or are otherwise outdated
- Have no return address, or have one that can't be verified as legitimate
- Are of unusual weight, given their size, or are lopsided or oddly shaped
- Have an unusual amount of tape on them
- Are marked with restrictive endorsements, such as "Personal" or "Confidential"
- Have strange odors or stains
- Show a city or state in the postmark that doesn't match the return address

What should I do if I've received a suspicious letter or parcel in the mail?

- Do not try to open the mail piece!
- Isolate the mail piece
- Evacuate the immediate area
- Call a Postal Inspector to report that you have received a parcel in the mail that may contain biological or chemical substance

Sailors Can View Statements and Records Online

Reservists can view their Annual Retirement Point Records (ARPR) and Annual Statements of Service History (ASOSH) online in a secure environment, 24 hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week. The Naval Reserve Personnel Center in New Orleans (<http://www.nrpcweb.nola.navy.mil>) has initiated a Website that allows online viewing of the above information. The new service is available to selected Reservists, Individual Ready Reserve members, retired Reservists without pay (those who retired within the past five years) and Naval Reserve Activity administrators. To access this resource, each member must log on to the BUPERS online (BOL) secure portal (<http://www.bupers.navy.mil>). With the advent of the ARPR and ASOSH online, mailing of paper copies will eventually be eliminated.

Selling your car?

Remove the DoD decal

Remove DoD Decals From Your Vehicle Prior to Selling BUPERS reminds ALL personnel (military, civilian, and contract) who have a vehicle with a DoD sticker/parking permit that if you are selling your vehicle, you should remove all DoD decals. This will deter attempts to gain unauthorized access to military installations. Recent incidents have highlighted the need for this reminder:

* In early September an individual at the Pentagon was approached about selling his car for \$3000. The car had a DoD sticker.

* On September 8, several males approached an individual to sell her car for \$6000. She was not advertising her car for sale. The car had a DoD sticker.

* On September 11, a Baltimore car with a DoD sticker and its owner were reported as missing.

* On September 22 in Alexandria, VA, a U.S. citizen took his car in for repairs. The person working on the car never returned the vehicle. The vehicle had a DoD decal.

These incidents may represent possible pre-operation acquisition of vehicles to transport vehicle-improvised explosive devices. Be sure to report any suspicious activity.

Inactive Marine Reservists Should Stay In Touch

Some Marines that recently left active service may not realize that they still have possible obligations in the Individual Ready Reserve. This body of service members could be called on in the wake of recent events to aid their country. President George W. Bush has authorized mobilization of up to 50,000 reservists. More than 10,300 have been called up since the authorization -- none of them Marines or Inactive Ready Reservists (IRRs). But the authorization raises many questions as to whether Marines will need those high-flying boots again. Thousands of Marines leave active duty each year and are immediately transferred to the Inactive Ready Reserve. IRR Marines can be recalled to active duty in the event of a national emergency or war. Anyone inducted, enlisted or appointed in the armed forces on or after June 1, 1984, is obligated to eight years of service, according to the Reserve Forces Almanac. IRR Marines have the following obligations:

- Notify Marine Corps Reserve Support Command of their current address, telephone number, health and marital status, dependent gains/losses or key employment status that would affect their freedom to mobilize.
- Maintain uniforms
- Retain a reserve ID card
- Attend an annual muster screening when notified by MCRSC
- Maintain standards of conduct

Humanitarian Rations loaded at Norfolk Air Terminal bound for Afghanistan



Norfolk Naval Station Air Terminal – (Oct 3, 2001) Humanitarian Daily Rations are loaded aboard a chartered aircraft bound for Afghanistan at the Norfolk Naval Station Air Terminal. The meals are part of the \$320 million humanitarian assistance for the innocent Afghan people who will soon be dealing with the coming winter. "The assistance is America's way of saying that while we firmly and strongly oppose the Taliban regime, we are friends of the Afghan people," said President Bush in his announcement on Oct. 4. The food will be distributed through the UN agencies such as the World Food Program and through private volunteer organizations. In addition to those in Afghanistan who need help, those who fled to neighboring countries will also be helped. The Norfolk Air Terminal is run by Cmdr. Paul Vanhoosen, SC, USN.

Photo by Bill Pointer, FISC Norfolk

Over 800 attend service

USS Cole Memorial Dedicated Honoring 17 of its Crew

Crew members, family and friends of the *USS Cole* (DDG 67) attended a memorial dedication on Friday Sept. 12, 2001 on Naval Station Norfolk. The memorial was dedicated to the Sailors who lost their lives on October 12, 2000 when the *USS Cole* was attacked in Aden Harbor, Yemen. It is made up of seventeen granite slabs from Mt. Rushmore that represent the Sailors. At the center of the memorial is a granite monolith that points upward symbolizing the hope and brightness of the future of *USS Cole* and her crew. The wreath laid at the memorial was composed of 48 white roses representing the 17 fallen Sailors, their surviving parents, spouses and children.

Opening remarks were delivered by Rear Admiral David Architzel, Commander Navy Regional Mid-Atlantic. Principal speaker was Rear Admiral John B. Floey, III, Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.



Official U.S. Navy Photo by Bill Pointer

New Flight Deck Trousers Debut on Enterprise

USS ENTERPRISE, At Sea -- The next Navy "fashion trend" won't be seen on the runways of Paris, but on the flight deck of an aircraft carrier. USS Enterprise (CVN 65) was recently selected as the first deployed carrier authorized to wear the newly designed flight deck trousers. The ship is currently on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea.

The navy-blue trousers were designed and tested by the Naval Supply Systems Command, at Mechanicsburg, Pa., in conjunction with the Naval Clothing and Textile Research Facility, based at Natick, Mass. The new flight deck trousers are a 65 percent polyester and 35 percent cotton twill blend. Each pair costs approximately 25 dollars.

After two initial designs were evaluated by the fleet, the final product was issued to Enterprise Sailors. "They're great, they feel better than any other uniform I've ever worn," said Airman Donquell Brown of the ship's V-2 division.

Although the new flight deck pants resemble the camouflage pants that have been used since 1997, there are some differences. Velcro straps secure the pockets instead of buttons and there are no

adjustment strings. Unlike the camouflage pants, the new pants come in specific sizes.

"A great benefit of these new pants, especially for the junior Sailors, is the wear and tear on the uniform," said ABEC(AW) Mark H. Newman, leading chief of the bow catapults division. "The new trousers are thicker and more durable, making them last longer than camouflage or even utilities."

Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet spent more than \$60,000 for more than 3,000 pairs of the new flight deck trousers. According to ABE1(AW) Paul G. Robinson, this was a good investment.

"Not only do they look good and are comfortable, but it's changed the attitudes of our flight deck personnel," Robinson said. "With a specific uniform they can call their own, most of the flight deck personnel feel like their hard work out there is really appreciated."



Craney Island Fuel Terminal

Fuel can now be requested via the NET



Fuel services from FISC Norfolk's Craney Island Fuel Terminal can now be requested via the Internet by logging on to FISC Norfolk's web site at www.nor.fisc.navy.mil. On the FISC site go to "Products & Services" then to "Fuel Services." On the Fuel Page scroll down to the left hand side of the page and click on "Fuel Requisitioning."

The Fuel/Lube Requisition form should be filled out with the requested information which includes: activity name, point of contact, telephone number, e-mail address, quantity of fuel requested, flange size, hose length, etc. Once this information is filled in, the form is sent to Trajen, the government contractor running the Craney Island terminal, who is responsible for filling the order.

Ships entering port can use this website fuel requisitioning method when they are within 10 days of their port visit. Ships inport can use the method any time. Please submit requisitions no later than two days before required deliveries.

De-fueling, or off-loading, services are also available from this website. A FAX or e-mailed scanned copy of a DD Form 1149, DD Form 1348-7, or DD Form 250 (-1) as appropriate must also be sent. If you have any questions, call:

757-322-9045

SHIPS' HAZARDOUS MATERIAL LIST (SHML) AND TYPE SHIPS' HAZARDOUS MATERIAL LIST (T-SHML)

The NAVY P2 office has CHRIMP Program Support personnel available to provide onboard training for T-SHML updating of individual ship's Hazardous Inventory Control System for Windows (HICSWIN) during ship visits. The SHML is a record of the Hazardous Material (HM) authorized aboard U.S. Navy surface ships. T-SHMLs have been built into HICSWIN as the authorized use list for each ship class. The T-SHML provides each ship with the ability to determine HM authorized and preclude stocking of dangerous material for which the ship has no use. To schedule assistance for the importing T-SHML and alternate NIIN Data please contact Michael Delaney at HMPO East Norfolk Va. (757) 443-1267 or DSN 646-1267.

The following are amplifying procedures and guidance for shipboard management of hazardous material items IAW OPNAVINST 5100.19d, Navy Occupational Safety and Health Program Manual for forces afloat:

Requisition/Receipt.

- The most current version of the Ship's Hazardous Material List (SHML) or Type-Specific SHML (T-SHML) mandated. the SHML is a record of the HM authorized aboard US Navy surface ships. T-SHMLs have been built into HICSWIN as the authorized use list for each ship. The SHML/ T-SHML is normally maintained by each ship's Supply Department, imbedded within the Hazardous Material Inventory Control System for Windows (HICSWIN), and can be downloaded and updated through the Standard Automated Logistics Toolset (SALTS).
- The Ships Hazardous Material List (SHML) provides the requirements for shipboard hazardous material (HM). if a ship has identified a valid requirement for an HM, and the material is either not listed in the SHML or is listed with a "P" (prohibited) or "N" (not determined), personnel must complete a SHML feedback report (SFR).
- Supply officers shall continue to adhere to the guidelines in OPNAVINST 5100.19d concerning open purchase, purchase by government credit card, and use of the SHML feedback report (SFR) system for all hazardous material.

House Bill Increases Montgomery GI Bill Benefits

The House of Representatives passed legislation last week to increase veterans' Montgomery GI Bill education benefits over the next three years from \$23,400 to \$39,600, a 70 percent increase over current law. A House Committee on Veterans' Affairs press release reports that the 21st Century Montgomery GI Bill Enhancement Act (H.R. 1291) is the largest single increase in the history of veterans' educational assistance. "The need to improve the current MGIB is clear," said House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Chris Smith. "Only about half of

all veterans eligible for MGIB have used it since 1985, even though the service member pays \$1,200 from his or her basic pay to become eligible. With today's increase, we expect that another 45,000 veterans will take advantage of MGIB over the next ten years." H.R. 1291 now moves to the Senate for their consideration. To write your senator or representative, visit <http://www.congress.org/>. The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs web site is at <http://veterans.house.gov>.

VA Insurance Premium Cut Coming for ages 30-59

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is cutting premium rates for Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) policy holders between the ages of 30 and 59. This affects more than a quarter-million veterans and includes about 70 percent of those who maintain policies through the regular payment of premiums. Depending upon the age of policyholders, premium rates will decrease from 5 percent to 24 percent. Policy holders will see the premium reductions and additional discounts reflected in their first premium bill after July 9. Also, new premium discounts will be offered to those who make payments quarterly or semi-annually. In the past, only a discount for annual payments was offered. For more information, call the VA Insurance Center toll-free at 1-800-669-8477 or browse this Life Insurance Fact Sheet at (<http://www.va.gov/publ/benman95/4LIFEINS.HTM>).

VA Announces New CHAMPVA For Life Benefit

Beginning October 1, improvements to the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) will bring financial relief to older survivors and dependents of some disabled or deceased veterans who face medical expenses not paid by Medicare or other third-party payers. A new VA benefit, "CHAMPVA for Life," is designed for spouses or dependents who are 65 or older. Information about the new benefit was recently mailed to all previous CHAMPVA beneficiaries and providers who have filed claims with CHAMPVA. People over age 65 who have never been eligible for CHAMPVA can request an application by writing to:

VA Health Administration Center (HAC)
P.O. Box 469028
Denver, CO 80246-9028

Veterans and family members can also call toll-free 1-888-289-2411, email to hac.inq@med.va.gov, or visit the VA Health Administration Center Website (<http://www.va.gov/hac>) to obtain more information.

Powers of Attorney, Sometimes Necessary in Military

There are many occasions during the course of a military career that a Power of Attorney might be necessary. There are two basic types of Power of Attorney: special and general. A general Power of Attorney gives the person who holds it the power to conduct business in your name. Service members can grant a special Power of Attorney, which spells out the specific ways it can be used. Base legal assistance attorneys can help service members determine which type of Power of Attorney will best meet their needs.

Medical Powers of attorney are used if a person becomes incapacitated and someone else needs to make medical decisions. Generally, Powers of Attorney are granted for one year. Service members can revoke a Power of Attorney in two ways if circumstances change. The first and simpler is to physically destroy the original document. The second is to write a letter of revocation, have it notarized and send a copy to the person holding the Power of Attorney. It's best to also send a copy of the revocation to places where the person is likely to use the Power of Attorney, such as banks or moving companies. Military service members and their families can have Powers of Attorney drawn up and notarized at most base legal assistance offices.

Navy's New \$2,000 Bonus for overseas Tour Extensions

Enlisted sailors stationed overseas will soon have the option of a \$2,000 bonus under the Overseas Tour Extension Incentive Program if they agree to stay on for an extra year at their duty stations. The program seeks to encourage service members to stay on station by offering them a choice of options. The Navy recently added the \$2,000 option to bring it in line with the other services. The program applies to anyone willing to extend or to service members in certain specialties. However, extensions are not automatic. Sailors will still have to go through the detailing process.

Non-VA Emergency Care Covered for Some Vets

A major improvement in providing emergency care to some uninsured veterans recently took effect. A Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) reports that the VA will now reimburse non-VA hospitals for emergency services provided to eligible veterans who have no other means of payment. To qualify, veterans must: (1) be enrolled in VA health care; (2) have been seen by a VA health care professional within 24 months; and (3) carry no other form of health insurance, including Medicare or Medicaid. If any third party pays all or part of the bill, VA cannot provide reimbursement.

When these conditions are met, the veteran pays nothing. The VA pays 70 percent of the applicable Medicare rate, and VA payment is considered payment in full. The VA will pay for private-sector emergency care only until the veteran can be safely transported to a VA facility. For more information about the emergency care benefits, contact your nearest VA health care facility or call 1-877-222-VETS (8387).

Navy Joins Air Force in Enacting Stop-Loss Policy to Retain Key Personnel

The U.S. Navy has joined the Air Force in enacting a policy to keep a select number of service members on active duty even if sailors already have set dates of separation or retirement. Because of the administration's call for war against terrorism, as of October 10, sailors in 11 specialty fields essential to national security will not be able to leave the service under rules established by the stop-loss policy. The policy affects about 10,500 sailors and naval officers who had plans to leave the Navy on or after October 10, in the following specialty areas:

- All O-3 and O-4 Special Operations Officers
- Security Limited Duty Officers
- Security Technician Chief Warrant Officers
- Cryptologic Officers; Master-at-Arms
- Enlisted SEALs, or Sea-Air-Land Teams
- Special Warfare Combatant-Craft crewmen with certain Navy Enlisted Classifications
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians

- Physicians in subspecialty codes 15C0/15C1 (all AQDs), 15H0/15H1 (all AQDs), 16R1 (AQD 6RR/62C), 15B0/15B1 (all AQDs), 16P0/16P1 (all AQDs) or 16X0

- Nurses in subspecialty codes 1930, 1945, 1950, 1960, 1972 or 1976 And any member who possesses one or more of certain relevant DOD language codes or NECs: AB, AD, AE, AK, AL, AM, AN, AP, AQ, AU, AV, AX, AZ, BT, DG, HE, HJ, PF, PG, PJ, PV, PW, RU (officer only), SC (officer only), TB, UB, UR, UX, 9208, 9209, 9215 or 9216.

The Navy has said the stop-loss policy will be in effect until further notice. Two weeks ago, the Air Force implemented a stop-loss policy service-wide, retaining all airmen who had plans to leave the service after October 1. Two weeks ago, the Air Force implemented a stop-loss policy service-wide, retaining all airmen who had plans to leave the service after October 1. Air Force officials will revisit that decision October 22 and determine if stop-loss should be narrowed to key specialties.

ATAC - What is it and What do they do?

ATAC MISSION:

Advanced Traceability and Control (ATAC) provides special tracking and visibility for Depot Level Repairable (DLR) components in the repair and supply pipeline in order to minimize losses and optimize repair and supply cycle times.

These components are assets that the Navy has determined more economical to repair than to discard and replace.

ATAC SERVICES FOR NON-READY FOR ISSUE (NRFI)

DLRs:

- Accept material at ATAC Hub or Node
- Perform DLR Pickup Service w/in 50 miles radius
- Provide DLR tracking/tracing, Proof of Receipt, Shipping, & Delivery information (POR, POS, POD)
- Ensure material identification and disposition
- Generate Transaction Item Report (TIR) to ICP
- Ensure proper packaging and transportation to final destination

ATAC NORFOLK RECEIVING:

- Located in Building SP237, Norfolk Naval Station
- Receiving Hours of Operation: Mon - Fri, 0700 - 1515, except Federal Holidays
- Responsible for off loading DLRs and providing Proof of Receipt (ATAC signature/date) to customer when present or mail/electronically transmit.

ATAC EXCLUSION ITEMS (These items are excluded from the ATAC program):

- Aircraft Engines
- Marine gas turbines

- FBM components
- Classified Items
- Reactor plant materials
- RADIAC (FSC 6665)
- A, B, C, explosives
- Arms & Ammunition
- Unauthorized Matl. Redistribution's
- Uncertified HAZMAT
- 3,5,1R,9R Cogs
- 2F,2J,2S Cogs
- Incomplete documents
- SMICs X1 - X5

FISC ATAC & INTERNET WEB SITES:

- Provides Internet accessible web site addresses for DLR status
- FISC ATAC Web Page address provides ATAC information along with links to DLR status screens www.nor.fisc.navy.mil (Click on ATAC)
- Provides customer comment/query form for ATAC responses.

ATAC Eastern Region Customer Support Phone Numbers:

- Naval Integrated Call Center (NICC) Toll Free# 877 418-6824
- Logistics Support Center# 757-443-1861 (DSN 646)
- ATAC#757-445-2060 (DSN 565)
- ATAC#757-444-8172 (DSN 564)

NAVTRANS Testing WWX for Battle Group/ Amphibious Group Support in the MED

NAVTRANS recently commenced a Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet (CINCLANTFLT) and Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe (CINCUSNAVEUR) coordinated test of the Worldwide Express (WWX).

service to support the USS Enterprise Battle Group and USS Kearsarge Amphibious Readiness Group deployments to the Mediterranean.

Test results to date indicate that while WWX has resulted in expected theater workload increases it is manageable and has stimulated installation of additional Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) that has helped to reduce this workload.

Worldwide Express (WWX) is an Air Mobility Command (AMC) contract with FedEx, DHL, and UPS that provides an alternative to AMC small package shipment of material OCONUS. WWX shipments are limited to all transportation priority 1/2, non-HAZMAT, non-classified shipments under 151 pounds.

Analysis of final test results will lead to developing a CINCUSNAVEUR/CINCLANTFLT coordinated policy on best mix of WWX and AMC for deployed afloat units in the Mediterranean Region. For more information contact Pierre Kirk at pierre_d_kirk@navtrans.navy.mil.

Military Star Card Interest Rate Drops

For the sixth time this year, Military Star cardholders will benefit from yet another drop in the card's interest rate. With the latest announcement by the Federal Reserve, key interest rates were lowered by a quarter percent. As a result, the Military Star card reduced its interest rate from 11.75 percent to 11.50 percent, effective Aug. 1, 2001.

The interest rate on the Military Star card has dropped nearly three percent since January and is at its lowest point since the card was introduced in September 2000. The Military Star card is accepted at all AAFES, NEXCOM, MCX, and Coast Guard exchanges, including catalog and military clothing stores operated by AAFES and Marine Corps exchanges.



FISC Norfolk Key Telephone

	DSN	Telephone	FAX
Commanding Officer	646	(757) 443-1001	443-1000
Executive Officer	646	(757) 443-1001	443-1000
Executive Director	646	(757) 443-1001	443-1000
Public Affairs Officer	646	(757) 443-1013	443-1015
Small Business Office	646	(757) 443-1435	443-1355
Security Officer	646	(757) 443-1510	443-1537
Counsel	646	(757) 443-1092	443-1090
Reserve Coordinator	646	(757) 443-1012	443-1549
Command Master Chief	646	(757) 443-1153	443-1015
FISC Duty Officer	646	(757) 443-1155	
Acquisition			
Acquisition Executive	646	(757) 443-1601	443-1605
Operations Director	646	(757) 443-1628	443-1605
Contract Ops (Fleet)	646	(757) 443-1375	443-1424
Contract Ops (Ashore)	646	(757) 443-1347	443-1424
Pierside Purchasing	646	(757) 443-1369	443-1376
Purchasing Ops (Ashore/Overseas)	646	(757) 443-1370	444-1376
Purchasing Ops (CONUS)	646	(757) 443-1394	443-1389
Purchasing Ops (Habitability)	646	(757) 443-1444	443-4417
Business Operations			
Director	646	(757) 443-1075	443-1064
E-Business	646	(757) 443-1502	443-1543
Customer Operations			
Director	646	(757) 443-1165	443-1175
Logistic Support Center	646	(757) 443-1861	443-1175
Navy Integrated Call Center		1-877-418-6824	443-1175
Material Operations			
Requirements Division	646	(757) 443-1271	443-1277
Ocean Terminal	564	(757) 444-2395	444-2352
ATAC	565	(757) 444-2060	445-8607
Household Goods	646	(757) 443-3795	443-3737
SERVMART	646	(757) 443-1273	443-1293
HAZMAT	564	(757) 444-5809	443-1293
Regional Navy Mail Center	564	(757) 444-9126	444-9796
Fuel			
Fuels Officer	262	(757) 322-9003	322-9005
Cheatham Annex	953	(757) 877-7100	887-7223
Police Emergency Numbers			
NAVSTA Norfolk		444-3333	
NAVPHIBASE Little Creek		462-4444	
NAS Oceana		433-9111	
Dan Neck		492-9111	
Yorktown NAVWEPSTA		887-4911	